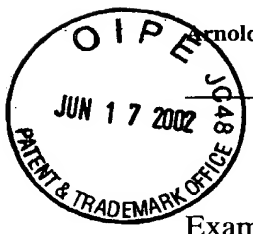


*D. Hammond*  
*Pr Amatt ID*  
*6-21-02*

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Arnold B. Silverman  
*Arnold B. Silverman*

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Examiner: A. Soderquist )  
Group Art Unit: 1743 ) SPECIATED ISOTOPE DILUTION MASS  
In re Application of ) SPECTROMETRY OF REACTIVE SPECIES  
HOWARD M. KINGSTON ) AND RELATED METHODS  
Serial No.: 09/015,469 ) Attorney Docket No. 049450-00095  
Filed: January 29, 1998 )

**RECEIVED**  
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**TC 1700**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC  
600 Grant Street, 44th Floor  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219  
June 17, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
BOX RCE  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The present Amendment was submitted under date of February 6, 2002 in Serial No. 09/015,469, but in the Advisory Action mailed March 13, 2002, was not entered. As this Amendment follows the Examiner's suggestions in respect of claim 1, the sole independent claim, it is respectfully submitted that it renders the application allowable. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**In the Claims:**

- Cancel claim 4.
- Rewrite claims 1 and 10 as follows.